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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 27 March 1952

SUBJECT Forced Labor Camps

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[redacted]

1. The total number of inmates at the Targu Margurele labor camp was estimated as follows: 3,000 Germans (Volksdeutsche), 3,000 Hungarians and 200 Germans (Reichsdeutsches) All ages, professions and classes were represented among the inmates including about twenty percent of female prisoners. The death rate was about three or four per day.

2. Most of the prisoners had not received a proper trial and, [redacted] 25X1
25X1 [redacted] the real reason for their arrest had been non-Rumanian nationality. They had no opportunity to contact a lawyer or friends.

3. Prisoners were transported to Targu Margurele in railway freight cars; the top openings were covered over with barbed-wire.

4. The labor camp was guarded by the Militia who wore uniforms similar to the Army. Weapons consisted of rifles and machine pistols.

5. Food was insufficient and all prisoners, after a few months in camp, showed signs of undernourishment and became ill with dropsy, et cetera. The morning meal consisted of half a liter of watery soup along with which was given the daily bread ration of 400 gr. At mid-day three-quarters of a liter of cabbage soup was issued, without meat and with only a small fat content. In the evening a half liter of soup was again given or sometimes a salt herring or 50 gr. of sugar for putting on the bread. Accommodation in the camp consisted of wooden huts each of which held 60 prisoners who slept in 3-tier wooden bunks. Through the center of every hut there was a long bench which served both as table and chairs. Heating in winter was supplied from a small, iron stove which burned peat and gave out insufficient warmth. The inhabitants of the huts were plagued with vermin.

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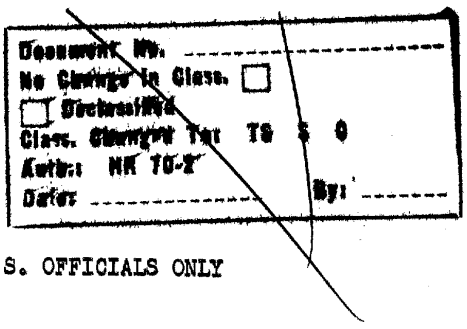
6. In most cases released prisoners were not given any chance to return to their home towns as their possessions had been confiscated by the State and they no longer had accommodation there. When released the prisoners were told which part of the country they had to go to and were handed a rail ticket and food for three days. A return to normal life was in no case possible.

7. A new forced labor settlement is situated approximately 18 kilometers southwest of Fratesti in an open steppe-like country.



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